

IN THE CLAIMS

1-21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A tablet comprising:

a) a pharmaceutically effective amount of fentanyl or its pharmaceutically acceptable salt for oral administration across the oral mucosa, including buccal, sublingual and gingival administration;

b) at least one pH adjusting substance which is a base; and

c) at least one saliva activated effervescent couple present in an amount which is greater than the amount necessary for tablet disintegration ~~and which is sufficient to increase absorption of said medicament across the oral mucosa~~, wherein said amount of said at least one effervescent couple is between about 5% by weight and about 80% by weight; and

d) which (b) and (c) are sufficient to increase permeability of said medicament across the oral mucosa;
said tablet suitable for buccal, sublingual and gingival administration of said medicament across the oral mucosa.

23. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22, wherein said effervescent couple present in an amount between about 20% by weight and about 80% by weight.

24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22, further comprising a bioadhesive, wherein said bioadhesive increases the contact time between said tablet and the oral mucosa.

26. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22, further comprising a non-effervescent disintegration agent.

27. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22, further comprising glidants, lubricants, binders, sweeteners, flavoring and coloring components.

28. (canceled)

29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A tablet comprising:

a) a pharmaceutically effective amount of fentanyl or its pharmaceutically acceptable salt for oral administration across the oral mucosa and capable of existing in an ionized form and a unionized form in the mouth;

b) at least one saliva activated effervescent couple present in an amount which is greater than the amount necessary for tablet disintegration; ~~and which is sufficient to increase absorption of said medicament across the oral mucosa; and~~

c) at least one pH-adjusting substance which is a base, present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said dosage form at a site of absorption in the mouth to favor said unionized form of said medicament; and

d) which (b) and (c) are sufficient to increase permeability of said medicament across the oral mucosa;
said tablet suitable for administration of said medicament across the oral mucosa.

31. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 30, further comprising at least one glidant, lubricant, binder, sweetener, flavor, non-effervescent disintegration agent or color.

32. (previously presented) The solid pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 30, further comprising a bioadhesive, wherein said bioadhesive increases the contact time between said dosage form and the oral mucosa.

33. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 30, comprising a non-effervescent disintegration agent selected from the group consisting of microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, crospovidone, corn starch, potato starch, modified corn starch, modified potato starch, bentonite,

alginates, agar, guar, locust bean, karaya, pectin and tragacanth.

34. (canceled)

35. (canceled)

36. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 30, wherein said at least one saliva activated effervescent couple is present in an amount between about 20% by weight and 80% by weight.

37-82. (canceled)

83. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22, wherein said at least one pH-adjusting substance is present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said tablet at a site of absorption in the mouth to favor an unionized form of said medicament.

84. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 30, wherein said at least one saliva activated effervescent couple is present in an amount between about 5% by weight and 80% by weight

85. (canceled)

86. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22 or claim 30, wherein said base is selected from the group consisting of sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, disodium hydrogen phosphate, sodium dihydrogen phosphate, dipotassium hydrogen phosphate, and potassium dihydrogen phosphate.

87. (canceled)

88. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22 wherein said at least one pH-adjusting substance is present in an amount which is sufficient to change the pH of a local environment of said medicament at a site of absorption in the mouth.

89. (canceled)

90. (canceled)

91. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22 which is adapted for buccal administration.

92. (canceled)

93. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22 which is adapted for gingival administration.

94. (previously presented) The tablet of claim 22 which is adapted for sublingual administration.

95. (canceled)

96. (canceled)

97. (canceled)

98-104. (canceled)